

Appln. No. 09/925,139
Customer No. 36,441
Response dated December 29, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-3 (Cancelled).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~The compound of claim 2~~ wherein the An antisense oligonucleotide 8 to 50 nucleobases in length that specifically hybridizes to nucleobases 1631 through 1769 of a nucleic acid molecule encoding human cholesteryl ester transfer protein (SEQ ID NO: 3), wherein said oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage and inhibits the expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein.

Claim 5 (Original): The compound of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): ~~The compound of claim 2~~ wherein the An antisense oligonucleotide 8 to 50 nucleobases in length that specifically hybridizes to nucleobases 1631 through 1769 of a nucleic acid molecule encoding human cholesteryl ester transfer protein (SEQ ID NO: 3), wherein said oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety and inhibits the expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein.

Claim 7 (Original): The compound of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

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Claim 8 (Currently Amended): ~~The compound of claim 2~~
~~wherein the~~ An antisense oligonucleotide 8 to 50
nucleobases in length that specifically hybridizes to
nucleobases 1631 through 1769 of a nucleic acid molecule
encoding human cholesteryl ester transfer protein (SEQ ID
NO: 3), wherein said oligonucleotide comprises at least
one modified nucleobase and inhibits the expression of
human cholesteryl ester transfer protein.

Claim 9 (Original): The compound of claim 8 wherein the
modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

10 (Currently Amended): ~~The compound of claim 2 wherein~~
~~the~~ An antisense oligonucleotide 8 to 50 nucleobases in
length that specifically hybridizes to nucleobases 1631
through 1769 of a nucleic acid molecule encoding human
cholesteryl ester transfer protein (SEQ ID NO: 3),
wherein said oligonucleotide is a chimeric
oligonucleotide and inhibits the expression of human
cholesteryl ester transfer protein.

11 (Cancelled).

12 (Currently Amended): A composition comprising the
compound of claim ~~±~~ 4 and a pharmaceutically acceptable
carrier or diluent.

13 (Original): The composition of claim 12 further
comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

14 (Cancelled).

15 (Currently Amended): A method of inhibiting the

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expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues *in vitro* with the compound of claim ~~1~~ 4 so that expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein is inhibited.

Claims 16-20 (Cancelled).

21(New): A composition comprising the compound of claim 6 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

22(New): The composition of claim 21 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

23(New): A method of inhibiting the expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues *in vitro* with the compound of claim 6, so that expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein is inhibited.

24(New): A composition comprising the compound of claim 8 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

25(New): The composition of claim 21 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

26(New): A method of inhibiting the expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues *in vitro* with the compound of claim 8, so that expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein is inhibited.

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27(New): A composition comprising the compound of claim 10 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

28(New): The composition of claim 27 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

29(New): A method of inhibiting the expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues *in vitro* with the compound of claim 10, so that expression of human cholesteryl ester transfer protein is inhibited.

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